

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5.6 A9 }  
5 Reproduction apparatus calibration is effected by rendering not only neutral density target patches but also a sampling of intentional off-neutral patches produced by selecting sets of red, green, and blue (and sometimes black) input code values for those patches which deviate from sets of values that would produce neutral densities. Then, by analyzing how the measured densities of all the patches change with changes in code values, the optimum set or sets of the three (or four) input code values that when used together produce a desired set of aim neutral density patches in a single iteration are determined.